IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A recording apparatus comprising:

means for generating, from input moving picture data, a plurality of menu thumbnail

~~picture~~ pictures representative of contents of said moving picture data, as first thumbnail data,

and for generating, from said moving picture data, a plurality of mark thumbnail ~~picture~~

pictures of a picture extracted as a characteristic picture, or a thumbnail picture of a picture

specified by a user, as a second thumbnail data, said first thumbnail data being generated as a

first independent menu thumbnail file of only said plurality of menu thumbnail pictures of

said first thumbnail data, and said second thumbnail data being generated as a second

independent mark thumbnail file of only said plurality of mark thumbnail pictures of said

second thumbnail data; and

means for recording said first thumbnail data and the second thumbnail data,

generated by said generating means, as independent groups on a recording medium,

wherein said menu thumbnail file includes only one thumbnail picture per a playlist,

[[the]] each playlist further including a plurality of said mark thumbnail pictures and

indicating a database of a group of playback domains of the input moving picture data, and

wherein said menu thumbnail picture is selected from a picture of contents or a

picture stored in an external device.

Claims 2-3 (Canceled).

Claim 4 (Original): The recording apparatus according to claim 1 wherein said

generating means generates first management data supervising said first thumbnail data with

a number corresponding to the first thumbnail data, said generating means also generating

2

second management data supervising said second thumbnail data with a number

corresponding to the second thumbnail data; said recording means recording said first and

second management data in said recording medium.

Claim 5 (Original): The recording apparatus according to claim 4 wherein said first

and second management data include data specifying the format of the picture data of the

thumbnail data being supervised.

Claim 6 (Original): The recording apparatus according to claim 4 wherein said

recording means records picture data of said thumbnail picture contained in said first or

second management data in terms of a block of a preset size as a unit.

Claim 7 (Original): The recording apparatus according to claim 1 wherein said

recording means records the information representing the referencing destination of said first

thumbnail data as a separate file on said recording medium.

Claim 8 (Original): The recording apparatus according to claim 1 wherein said

recording means further records the information indicating the referencing destination of said

thumbnail picture contained in said second thumbnail data.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): A recording method comprising:

generating, from input moving picture data, a plurality of menu thumbnail picture

pictures representative of contents of said moving picture data, as first thumbnail data, and

generating, from said moving picture data, a plurality of mark thumbnail picture pictures of a

picture extracted as a characteristic picture, or a thumbnail picture of a picture specified by a

user, as a second thumbnail data, said first thumbnail data being generated as a first

independent menu thumbnail file of only said <u>plurality of menu thumbnail pictures of said</u>

first thumbnail data, and said second thumbnail data being generated as a second independent

mark thumbnail file of only said <u>plurality of mark thumbnail pictures of said</u> second

thumbnail data; and

exercising control for recording said first thumbnail data and the second thumbnail

data, generated by said generating, as independent groups on a recording medium,

wherein said menu thumbnail file includes only one thumbnail picture per a playlist,

[[the]] <u>each</u> playlist <u>further including a plurality of said mark thumbnail pictures and</u>

indicating a database of a group of playback domains of the input moving picture data, and

wherein said menu thumbnail picture is selected from a picture of contents or a

picture stored in an external device.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): A recording medium having recorded thereon a

computer-readable program, said computer-readable program comprising:

generating, from input moving picture data, a <u>plurality of</u> menu thumbnail ~~picture~~

<u>pictures</u> representative of contents of said moving picture data, as first thumbnail data, and

generating, from said moving picture data, a <u>plurality of</u> mark thumbnail ~~picture~~ <u>pictures</u> of a

picture extracted as a characteristic picture, or a thumbnail picture of a picture specified by a

user, as a second thumbnail data, said first thumbnail data being generated as a first

independent menu thumbnail file of only said <u>plurality of menu thumbnail pictures of said</u>

first thumbnail data, and said second thumbnail data being generated as a second independent

file of only said <u>plurality of mark thumbnail pictures of said</u> second thumbnail data; and

exercising control for recording said first thumbnail data and the second thumbnail

data, generated by said generating, as independent groups on a recording medium,

wherein said menu thumbnail file includes only one thumbnail picture per a playlist,

[[the]] each playlist further including a plurality of said mark thumbnail pictures and

indicating a database of a group of playback domains of the input moving picture data, and

wherein said menu thumbnail picture is selected from a picture of contents or a

picture stored in an external device.

Claim 11 (Canceled).

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): A reproducing apparatus comprising:

first readout means for reading out management data supervising picture data of a

plurality of menu thumbnail picture pictures representative of contents of said picture data in

case playback of said picture data is commanded;

second readout means for reading out said picture data based on said management

data read out by said readout means;

third readout means for reading out picture data of a plurality of mark thumbnail

picture pictures of a picture extracted as a characteristic picture from said picture data or

picture data of a thumbnail picture of a picture specified by a user, and management data

supervising said picture data, said first thumbnail data being a first independent menu

thumbnail file of only said plurality of menu thumbnail pictures of said first thumbnail data,

and said second thumbnail data being generated as a second independent mark thumbnail file

of only said plurality of mark thumbnail pictures of said second thumbnail data; and

fourth readout means for reading out said picture data based on said management data

read out from said third readout means,

wherein said menu thumbnail file includes only one thumbnail picture per a playlist,

[[the]] each playlist further including a plurality of said mark thumbnail pictures and

indicating a database of a group of playback domains of the input moving picture data, and

wherein said menu thumbnail picture is selected from a picture of contents or a

picture stored in an external device.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): A reproducing method comprising:

a first readout controlling reading out management data supervising picture data of a

plurality of menu thumbnail picture pictures representative of contents of said picture data in

case playback of said picture data is commanded;

a second readout controlling the readout of said picture data based on said

management data readout-controlled by the processing of said first readout control;

a third readout controlling reading out picture data of a plurality of mark thumbnail

picture pictures of a picture extracted as a characteristic picture from said picture data or

picture data of a thumbnail picture of a picture specified by a user, and management data

supervising said picture data, said first thumbnail data being generated as a first independent

menu thumbnail file of only said plurality of menu thumbnail pictures of said first thumbnail

data, and said second thumbnail data being generated as a second independent mark

thumbnail file of only said plurality of mark thumbnail pictures of said second thumbnail

data; and

a fourth readout controlling reading out said picture data based on said management

data readout-controlled by the processing of said third readout control,

wherein said menu thumbnail file includes only one thumbnail picture per a playlist,

[[the]] each playlist further including a plurality of said mark thumbnail pictures and

indicating a database of a group of playback domains of the input moving picture data, and

wherein said menu thumbnail picture is selected from a picture of contents or a

picture stored in an external device.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): A recording medium having recorded thereon a

computer-readable program, said computer-readable program comprising:

a first readout controlling the readout of management data supervising picture data of

a plurality of menu thumbnail picture pictures representative of contents of said picture data

in case playback of said picture data is commanded;

a second readout controlling the readout of said picture data based on said

management data readout-controlled by the processing of said first readout control;

a third readout controlling reading out picture data of a plurality of menu mark

thumbnail picture pictures of a picture extracted as a characteristic picture from said picture

data or picture data of a thumbnail picture of a picture specified by a user, and management

data supervising said picture data, said first thumbnail data being generated as a first

independent menu thumbnail file of only said plurality of menu thumbnail pictures of said

first thumbnail data, and said second thumbnail data being generated as a second independent

mark thumbnail file of only said plurality of mark thumbnail pictures of said second

thumbnail data;

a fourth readout controlling reading out said picture data based on said management

data readout-controlled by the processing of said third readout controlling,

wherein said menu thumbnail file includes only one thumbnail picture per a playlist,

[[the]] each playlist further including a plurality of said mark thumbnail pictures and

indicating a database of a group of playback domains of the input moving picture data, and

wherein said menu thumbnail picture is selected from a picture of contents or a

picture stored in an external device.

Claims 15-16 (Canceled).

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): The recording apparatus according to claim 1, wherein [[said]] each menu thumbnail picture is representative of contents of a respective of the playlists playlist in the moving picture data, and [[said]] each mark thumbnail picture is used in a submenu for representing details of the respective playlist.

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): The recording method according to claim 9, wherein [[said]] each menu thumbnail picture is representative of contents of a respective of the playlists playlist in the moving picture data, and [[said]] each mark thumbnail picture is used in a submenu for representing details of the respective playlist.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended): The recording medium according to claim 10, wherein [[said]] each menu thumbnail picture is representative of contents of a respective of the playlists playlist in the moving picture data, and [[said]] each mark thumbnail picture is used in a submenu for representing details of the respective playlist.

Claim 20 (Currently Amended): The reproducing apparatus according to claim 12, wherein [[said]] each menu thumbnail picture is representative of contents of a respective of the playlists playlist in the moving picture data, and [[said]] each mark thumbnail picture is used in a submenu for representing details of the respective playlist.

Claim 21 (Currently Amended): The reproducing method according to claim 13, wherein [[said]] each menu thumbnail picture is representative of contents of a respective of

the playlists playlist in the moving picture data, and [[said]] each mark thumbnail picture is

used in a submenu for representing details of the respective playlist.

Claim 22 (Currently Amended): The recording medium according to claim 14,

wherein [[said]] each menu thumbnail picture is representative of contents of a respective of

the playlists playlist in the moving picture data, and [[said]] each mark thumbnail picture is

used in a submenu for representing details of the respective playlist.